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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Mineral King

Disney's Wider World



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War against the wilderness

When Walt Disney died in 1966, the consensual eulogy about his greatness was interrupted by occasional whisperings about the fate of his body. It had not been interred or cremated at all, so the rumors went, but had been frozen, the creator of Mickey Mouse having in his later years become a convert to the fledgling cult of cryogenics. At about the time of this gothic gossip, Disney's corporation was receiving permission from the U.S. Forest Service to carve one of the world's largest ski areas out of Mineral King, an untouched part of the Sierra Valley, bordered on three sides by Sequoia National Park, and midway between Los Angeles and San Francisco. It was this that led certain Hollywood cynics to wonder out loud if Walt would one day be thawed out and return to ski when his magic Alpine kingdom was completed.

It is easy to see why anything touched by Walt Disney Productions lends itself to comic speculation. But the question of the development of Mineral King is deadly serious. While the total environmental impact of this relatively small area is hardly as important as other eminent tragedies — say, the trans-Alaska pipeline — it is a symbol of the jeopardy of America's ecology. Not since John Muir's historic fight to save the Yosemite Valley from private development has there been a conservation battle of such watershed proportions. For Walt Disney Productions is being aided in its attempted rape of this beautiful area by the U.S. Forest Service itself. At the core of the Mineral King controversy are issues such as the right of the Forest Service to license such development without holding prior public hearings; the right of developers to build ugly resorts within a National Game Refuge; the right of the government to lease large tracts of national forest land to developers; the propriety of the government lobbying through a highway across a national park for the convenience of a private resort; and the right of government agencies to string an unsightly power transmission line across a national park without congressional approval. When the Sierra Club challenges the Mineral King plan in the Supreme Court this fall, these questions and others will be raised; and the answer will tell much about the future of America's environment.

Disney's Forest Service-sanctioned plan would change all this, the \$35 million investment bringing in 2.5 million visitors annually via a new 26-mile road built across Sequoia National Park by the state at a cost of \$45 million. All would park in an 8-by 10-story structure designed to accommodate 3600 cars. Up to 12,000 daily visitors would be whisked by a tramway to an Alpine village, check in at a 1030-room hotel complex, meet at the convention center, browse in shops and watch movies (presumably the latest Disney fare) at the theater. In the morning a system of more than two dozen ski lifts would carry the



Disney World the effective powers of a county. The Disney organization controls an improvement district and two municipalities. The state also sold a \$33 million bond issue to pay for a highway linking the resort with key freeways. And the first phase of the project is being built under a "no-strike" agreement negotiated with all 17 unions involved.

Imbued with this mentality Hicks began quietly negotiating in 1963 for the private property at Mineral King. By early 1965 he had bought up 28.7 acres from 18 different parties. The land was in two parcels that essentially controlled access to the valley. One site was a 23.7-acre wash area at the foot of Empire Mountain which included remains of the old Empire Mine, stamp mill and the present-day Mineral King dump. The other was Ray Buckman's little five-acre resort complex where Walt had unwound during summer vacations. Hicks then moved five miles west to buy up the 160-acre Wells-Seaborn property at Silver City. Tying up this key parcel would have given Disney effective control of the prime private terrain at Mineral King. But the Forest Service, which had been continually restudying the ski area concept, decided to move before Hicks took control of this key access point for Disney. In March 1965 the agency issued a new prospectus inviting proposals for a \$3 million development at Mineral King.

Part of the push to open bidding at this point came from a rival of Disney's, a Los Angeles stockbroker named Robert Brandt who had contributed heavily to Lyndon Johnson's 1964 presidential campaign. His wife, actress Janet Leigh, had campaigned for both Johnson and

This article by Roger Rapoport has been reprinted from the November 1971 issue of *Ramparts*, by special arrangement between the NEXUS and the editors of *Ramparts*.

Rapoport is a California-based writer and author of a new study of the American nuclear weapons program titled, *The Great American Bomb Machine* (E. P. Dutton).

guests up four miles into the surrounding wilderness for skiing in winter or picnicking in summer. There would be a choice of three buffeteria, three snack bars, a konditorei, teen center, coffee shop, waitress-served restaurant, multi-service restaurant and gourmet restaurant. Although the federal government legally can lease only 80 acres for resorts developed on national forest land, this Disney recreation empire would cover 300 acres of land in the Mineral King Wildlife Refuge with ski facilities spanning over 13,000 acres; access to the extra property is obtained through year-to-year lease permits supplementing the basic 80-acre permit and good for 30 years.

Of course this development is only a beginning. The Disney corporation frequently cites a pledge made by Walt when his company first won the bid: "All of us promise that our efforts now and in the future will be dedicated to making Mineral King grow to meet the ever-increasing public need. I guess you might say it won't ever be finished." And that's precisely what frightens a lot of people who fear for the fragile beauty of Mineral King. They point out that Yosemite Valley is considered crowded even with 10,000 visitors, and that region is seven times the size of the Mineral King Valley.

Disney had a genius for hiring people with know-how. And that was how he came to hire Bob Hicks, a slick Southern California businessman who specialized in fronting for prominent politicians and executives who wanted to buy land anonymously. Hicks counted such California power-brokers as Jesse Unruh among his clients; he made a perfect dummy buyer because he looked and acted like a type-cast executive. Well-groomed, soft-spoken, and even-tempered, Hicks took on a tough assignment from Uncle Walt. The job was to buy up all 740 acres of private land in the Mineral King area so Disney would be free from competition. Once the land was tied up, Walt figured he would persuade the Forest Service to lease access to the rest of the valley acreage.

This strategy was based on a lesson Walt had learned at Disneyland. Walt underestimated the drawing power of his Anaheim park and bought only 230 acres. A huge number of ugly motels, drive-ins, restaurants and other businesses flocked to the Disneyland perimeter and were eventually grossing five times what the park was making. That, as well as his native bent, made Walt into something of a globalist. His thinking is best reflected in the new Walt Disney World resort that opened this fall in central Florida. The 43 square mile project, covering an area twice the size of Manhattan, is a Disney fiefdom. A special bill was put through the Florida legislature that gave



California Governor Pat Brown and was rewarded with appointments to Lady Bird Johnson's beautification council and the California recreation commission.

At the behest of Governor Brown, the California State Senate put an amendment on the omnibus highway bill of 1965 which opened the way to a \$25 million grant for upgrading the Mineral King road into an all-weather road. The Forest Service announcement and sudden passage of the road bill killed Disney's dream of tying up the private property. The price on the Wells-Seaborn property tripled, so Hicks dropped his real estate venture and went to work putting together a bid proposal for Disney. Six bids were submitted, with Disney and Brandt the prime contenders. Although some Forest Service people preferred Brandt's bid because of its careful avalanche-planning, Disney finally won out with his \$35 million package. A key factor was his good name and his connections as a naturalist and Sierra Club

(Continued on p. 4, col. 1)

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Disney's Dollars whittle away winter wonderland— California remains silent

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which federal officials believed would help them beat the expected objections of environmentalists.

In January 1966, Walt Disney was given a three-year preliminary permit to begin making snow surveys and to complete his development plans. This was vitally necessary since the bid proposals were drawn so hastily that they showed ski trails running uphill on Miner's Nose. The main village was sited on the Disney-owned 23.7 acres at the foot of Empire Mountain, which was a prime avalanche area. Walt continued babying along his pet project until his sudden death on December 15, 1966. Then his organization continued pushing the plan as a sort of memorial. Dave Beck, veteran mountaineer who had worked as a ski patrolman at several major California resorts, was hired by the Disney corporation to head a Mineral King snow survey project. Moving with his wife Sue into the old restaurant that had once served Ray Buckman's resort and setting up housekeeping during the winter of 1966-67, Beck spent his days climbing the mountains charting snow depth, avalanche hazards and terrain factors. With him periodically were several assistants, all experienced mountaineers.

While Beck's snow survey was going forward, however, the vital road plan was stalled. California's highway engineer J. C. Womack said the Mineral King road could be built only "at the expense of other critical (road-building) projects." He added that the use of funds set aside for other road-building projects would be "...very disruptive to previously approved planning and scheduling of projects in the Southern Counties" of California. But the Disney name was still magic. To get the road work going, the federal Economic

valuable northern Redwood acreage necessary to establish a Redwood National Park, Governor Reagan (who had received substantial financial backing from Disney in the '66 campaign) demanded that the Johnson administration override Udall. Johnson, acting through the Bureau of the Budget, agreed, and in December 1967 Udall issued a permit that allowed the road to cross Sequoia National Park.

Hicks, who was now on the Disney payroll fulltime, and other Disney executives made frequent winter visits by helicopter. They often brought along politicians, businessmen, and ski association leaders for a look. Dave and Sue Beck played host to the sightseers, feeding, guiding and entertaining them.

By the winter of 1968-69, Beck's snow survey was moving along well. Wally Ballenger, a former ski patrol leader at Squaw Valley, and two ski mountaineers, Randy Kletka (26) and Gary Kirk (25), stayed at Mineral King with Beck and worked periodically as Disney-paid assistants. In December of 1968, the resident Disney team began aiding the Forest Service's Mineral King specialist Pete Wyckoff on avalanche studies. Wyckoff hauled his 75 millimeter recoilless rifle to a platform on the banks of the Kaweah River, loaded it with two-pound shells and began shooting down avalanches on Empire Mountain. The shots arched 3000 feet into the air, traveling a distance of 1.5 miles, and some landed right at the boundary of the neighboring Sequoia National Park. The target practice, which was resumed on three subsequent days in December 1968 and January 1969, spawned rumors that the Forest Service had declared war on the national park. Wyckoff climbed up on the mountain and made doubly certain none of his shots travelled over the boundary.

Heavy snowfall blanketed the valley during these winter months, raising some concern in Beck's mind about avalanche dangers to himself, his wife and the three assistants. Although there hadn't been a serious avalanche at the site of their cabins in 80 years, the snowpack was mounting steadily. Beck had raised the idea of providing the snow survey team with a sturdy house at a safer location. But Hicks felt it wasn't necessary and pacified the Becks by putting indoor plumbing into their flimsy winter home.

The big snow was perfect for Hick's promotional tours and as late as the beginning of February he was showing up to have dinner with the Becks, Ballenger, Kirk and Kletka. In the second week of February, a Disney camera team came up to shoot footage for a documentary on Mineral King. Part of the work involved photographing avalanche protection work, and Randy Kletka was hired by Disney to work with the cameramen. A big snowstorm cut the shooting short, and the film people were snowbound for several days until they were finally flown out by helicopter.

It was the third avalanche that brought fatality. A slide off the Potato Patch Ridge spilled across the canyon and buried Ray Buckman's old resort under 14 feet of snow. Wally Ballenger, who had been staying in a cabin used by Bob Hicks during the summer, managed to kick his way out of the attic and tunnel out. But Randy Kletka did not. He had been staying at Beck's quarters, where the snow toppled the wood-burning stove, setting the house on fire, and Kletka smothered.

Unable to make phone contact with Ballenger or Kletka on Monday, Beck rented a plane and flew over Mineral King. The cabins were completely buried so, after he landed at Three Rivers, Beck notified Hicks and the Tulare County sheriff. "Don't say anything to anyone," admonished Hicks. "We'll handle everything from Burbank." The Disney executive also spoke by phone with Sue Beck: "A check for Randy is in the mail, will you hold it for me?" She agreed to

do it, failing to see what was on Hicks' mind.

But when Hicks reached the Three Rivers airport his game plan became obvious. After a helicopter inspection of Mineral King, he returned to the airport to await word from the search party. When word came through that Kletka was dead, Hicks' visceral reaction was to call Disney's corporate attorneys in Burbank. After he hung up, the Mineral King project manager told Sue Beck: "I just talked to our legal department and we can't acknowledge that we knew who Randy was." Later he added: "People are going to ask you who Randy was and we will have to say we don't know him."

Hicks made no attempt to notify Kletka's family about the death. Instead he kept busy telling local reporters that he didn't know who Randy was. The ploy worked beautifully. News stories did not identify Kletka as a mountaineer who had been working for Disney. Instead he came off as an itinerant hippie who just happened to be caught in an avalanche at Mineral King.

After the fatal avalanche, Beck was persona non grata in the Disney organization. The mountaineer who had climbed the Mineral King peaks for three winters was treated as if he were responsible for the slide. The corporate attitude seemed to be that Beck had personally stood on top of the valley and pushed down the avalanche.

Disgusted by the experience, Beck quit. The Disney Corporation refused to reimburse him for personal possessions destroyed in the avalanche.



When the snow melted that spring, Hicks elected to have the damaged buildings burned down.

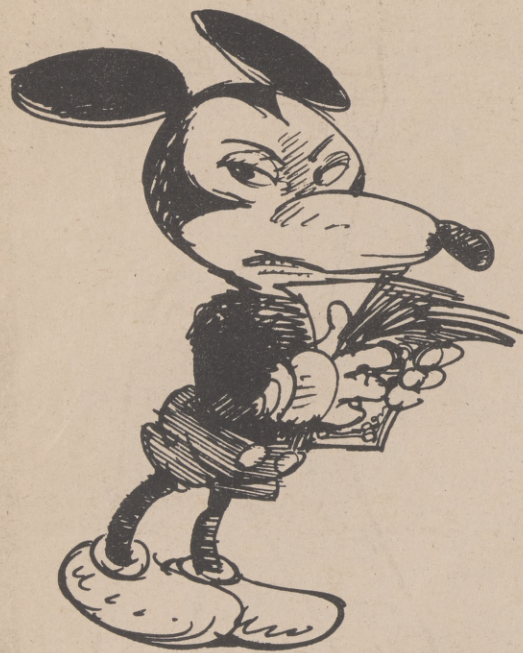
Beck had to race in just ahead of the torches to save possessions left behind. The burning was carelessly done, scorching a number of trees around the cabins. When the embers died down, the rubble was hauled over to the Mineral King dump located on Disney property.

Even this rubble had a use for Bob Hicks. It made the dump even bigger and uglier, an eyesore that the Disney people promised to eliminate with their development. In tours and slide shows to civic groups, Hicks dwelled at length on this ugly spot, which he claimed was the fault of litterbugging campers. But he failed to mention that the dump was on Disney property or that it included Disney garbage.

The Disney men also boasted that the disastrous February 1969 avalanches had borne out the careful predictions of their snow survey team. During the summer of 1969, when Pete Wyckoff's 75 mm recoilless rifle still lay at the bottom of the Kaweah River, one company spokesman told the New York Times: "We know how to move snow. We can make it move when we want, not when it wants."

The Disney version did not deceive the Sierra Club, which obtained a temporary injunction against the development on July 26, 1969. Although the injunction was overturned at the appellate level, development is being held up until the entire matter was reviewed by the Supreme Court.

Sierra Club director Michael McCloskey says his organization would like to see Mineral King added to beautiful Sequoia National Park, where it should have gone in the first place. Joe Fontaine, who heads the Sierra Club chapter in the Mineral King area, believes blocking the resort is essential to salvation of the southern Sierra region. In Tehachapi, where Fontaine makes his home, (Continued on p. 5, col. 1)



Development Administration gave the California Highway Commission a \$3 million grant based on the ruse that development of Mineral King was vital to the state's economy.

When Secretary of Interior Stuart Udall balked at the Forest Service plan to put the road across Sequoia National Park (noting that construction of the all-weather road would involve removal of 8 million cubic yards of soil which would scar and erode steep hillsides, with the subsequent runoff possibly undermining the root structure of giant Sequoia trees in the park), it was time for the Republicans to do their bit for Disney. The Brown administration had started the road project, but it took the Reagan administration to finish it. In exchange for trading the federal government the

Mineral King continues

(Continued from p. 4)

American, Canadian and Philippine firms are already carving up 150 square miles into recreational subdivisions. If Mineral King goes through, virtually all suitable land in the region will be prone to similar exploitation.

On Faculty Flat the summer cabin owners are nervous too. For almost half a century families have lived better here unelectrified. In a time of smothering rhetoric about ecology, virtually all of these families have been making it without electricity, gas or hot water. But, instead of winning praise for their personal conservation efforts, they face condemnation by the Forest Service to make way for Disney, his roads and utilities. Hicks plans to use the cabins as temporary housing for his construction crews. And eventually Faculty Flat will get its own Walt Disney memorial conservation education center which will: "make every visitor aware of the importance of conservation ... [and] the techniques utilized at Mineral King to prevent soil erosion and pollution of air, water and sound."

Jim Parks, a school principal who has summered at Mineral King for 39 years, thinks the conservation center plan is insane; "People have been getting conservation education here by themselves for decades. They don't need Disney to tell them the difference between a pine and a fir. This is the only place in California that's the same way it was when I was a kid. When they take it away, I don't know where we'll go."

Mrs. Dorothy Barboni, a Visalia widow who has spent the last 47 summers in Mineral King, feels the same way. Her porch overlooks a key trailhead and much of her day is spent giving food and drink away to the hikers who come back every summer: "We've already got smog coming up from the San Joaquin Valley. If Disney comes, Mineral King will just be a city. Just another city."

The backpackers are facetious about the resort plan. At the end of a day's climb, they joke about the summer tourists that will come to Disney's resort, ride the lifts up the mountains with their backpacks and then walk down. In Disney's world that will be considered roughing it.

And while the Forest Service tries to push through the Disney project, camping opportunities are dwindling. Not a single dime was appropriated for new Forest Service campgrounds in California during fiscal 1971-72. Jim James, the Sequoia National Forest Supervisor, says two prime Ranger districts at the southern end of the Sierra may soon be completely closed to camping on undeveloped sites: "I think the day when camping on undeveloped sites in California national forests is terminated may not be too far in coming. We're already thinking about a reservation system for the campsites."

So while the federal government and the Sierra Club fight Mineral King out in Washington, Bob Hicks and the Disney team wait quietly in the wings. In Burbank, where Bob



ARTIST'S conception of finished Disney project.

1969 Disney Productions

Hicks is spending the waiting period designing an airport for the Florida project, all seems calm and confident. The company has charged all its \$1

million Mineral King development costs off its taxes. In the five years since Walt's death, his corporate heirs have pushed annual profits up from

\$12.3 million to a record \$21.8 million. That's the best of any studio in Hollywood, where most of the competition is in the red and some are out auctioning off old props to stay alive. Disney's movies, roadshows, Mickey Mouse apparel, and amusement park are all hitting new peaks. And the company estimates the new Florida project will net \$20 million annually within a few years, equal to the entire corporate profit of 1970.

Things have never been better. It's easy to see why the corporate philosophy hasn't changed, why the streets of Disney's Burbank lot retain names like Snow White Boulevard and Dopey Drive. The films stay safely in the banalities of humanoid Volkswagens that get involved with Edsels, hippie mailmen and the Mafia. Disneyland's young park staff continues to wear the shortest hair in Southern California outside the Hare Krishna movement. And "One Nation Under God, an inspiring story of

America's freedom" at the Florida project, features nothing less than robotized replicas of all 36 presidents of the United States.

Shortly before Walt opened Disneyland, a group of social workers were taken on a tour and one asked their guide: "Will there be discounts for underprivileged children?" The guide replied: "Not in Mr. Disney's lifetime." Nor in the lifetime of his corporation. For

all its sanctimoniousness and sentimentality, Walt Disney Productions is every bit as greedy and self-centered as U.S. Steel or Dow Chemical. The beautiful old nature films of the '50s are the illusion; the reality is the determination to use all the corporation's considerable

good will and political clout to stage a takeover via the U.S. Forest Service at Mineral King. It is the end to all our childhood fantasies: Mickey Mouse and Smokey the Bear conspiring to tear up the wilderness.

*Our NEW Women's Section
is not quite complete, but to show you
where it's at ... we have our*

OPENING SPECIAL



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FOR GALS & GUYS
966 Embarcadero Del Mar

COMMENTARY

Improve Mineral King plans

BY RODERICK NASH

The comments which follow were taken from a conversation between Roderick Nash, co-chairman of Environmental Studies, and Christy Wise, a NEXUS reporter.

The Mineral King area, although very lovely, cannot be classified as wilderness. Roads have already been built which lead right into the valley. Therefore the issue is not one of wilderness preservation or invasion.

However, there is an argument resisting development. Walt Disney's proposed project would bring lots of people into this area of low density use. They would be very near the Upper Kern Watershed which is very wild. After that, there is no telling what could happen. There would be a great temptation to continue building right down the other side.

We have to make a place in the environmental plan for many tastes. One preference is for pure wilderness, others include modified forms of recreational activity such as skiing. These people have a right to this resource. I personally don't object to skiing. I am a former competitive skier, enjoy it very much and therefore am biased in this area. I don't categorize recreational activities and mining together. One is quite harmful, the other can be beneficial.

RECREATION

Certain ski areas in the Sierra are justifiable, given the great amount of wilderness there. I hate to lose wilderness but a certain amount will have to be given up for these recreational purposes. These

activities have their place. For example, dirt bikes and their trails are fine in a given area, if not spread randomly over the countryside.

If the Mineral King area is to be developed, I feel Walt Disney and his organization have a potential for doing a pretty good job. Through various films, Walt Disney has done a great deal toward opening America's eyes to the value of the wilderness. I don't classify him with exploiters like Boise Cascade.

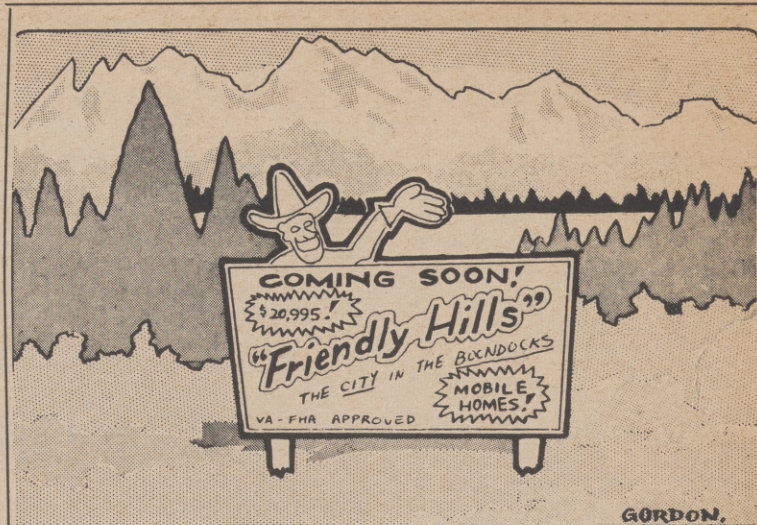
IMPROVEMENT

Certain aspects of the project should be improved. The use of cars is something I would eliminate. People could park their cars at Three Rivers and take a monorail into a walking community. A monorail wouldn't disrupt the land as much as a highway would. The towers could be spaced to allow for a minimum of disturbance and there would be no cut and fill, no grading and no cement equator through the ecosystem.

AUTOMANIAC SOCIETY

I think there is a chance through development in this area to provide a model for the automaniac society of California. It would be a chance to prove that human happiness and an absence of cars are not incompatible. People could get around on busses or horse drawn vehicles, much like at Disneyland.

This is a very important case in the Supreme Court. On it hangs whether or not any conservation group or individual will have standing in court on an issue for which he has no economic interest.



Yes, folks, now YOU can despoil your own piece of the American Wilderness!

COMMENTARY

The New Hypocrisy

BY PETER QUIMBY

In recent times you have no doubt noticed, unless you are a deaf and dumb Tibetan hermit, that the media have latched on to a new topic on which to turn out reams of copy: ecology (to further batter a misused word). There has been so much written on this topic and I hasten to add that this is not one more essay defending ecology or calling for a reordering of national priorities. Such is obviously not needed.

Ecology is so safe an issue that it has been approved by the establishment. "Time" reports on it. Walt Disney would have smiled on it. And on our side of the generation gap, it is one of the cornerstones of the counterculture. Ecology is the Mom-and-Apple-Pie of our generation.

Our identification as the champions of the issue is one of the reasons older liberals from time to time make statements that this generation is the best informed, most aware generation in history.

LAP IT UP

We, of course, lap it all up. From our position on Olympus we indulge in games such as hypocrisy. "Look at you," we tell our elders, "you defend the holy institution of marriage and then go out and commit adultery. You are hypocrites." We, of course, are different. Aren't we?

One would be hard pressed to find one person who would speak against the institution of ecology among the 13,000 plus students on this campus. We talk a great line.

All of us say we would willingly defend a delicate and rare wild flower from the crass bulldozer operator who wants to pave it over for another parking lot. Yet we will knock it down and trample it to death in order to save three steps on our way to the Speech Building.

WORKS BOTH WAYS

We speak of the need to preserve the environment and we point an accusing finger at Standard Oil while we destroy the Devereaux dunes. Fences must be raised to save the dunes from the most vocal advocates of ecology, who think that tanning their gonads is more important than just some old plants.

We deride cement walkways and rapturously speak of grassy lawns, yet we wear great bare spots in the lawns and shrubbery because we are too lazy to stay on the walkways. A few steps saved is more important than allowing grass and plants to live.

Then we ignore all signs and tear down fences, when attempts are made to reseed, while wondering who put them up right in our way. We throw verbal brickbats at Buildings and Grands Department for unecological action when they pave it over.

TOO MANY CARS

We discourse on the need for fewer cars, more rapid transit and car pools; yet a stroll down an Isla Vista residential street will reveal driveways which look like used car lots.

We speak endlessly of the dwindling natural resources and the need for recycling while littering Isla Vista with trash. When considering who is to blame for Isla Vista's ugliness, let us not forget that we are the ones who live there.

We heap scorn upon companies who pollute the air and yet we insist

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NEXUS

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● Guest Opinion

Letters

Superficial movement analysis

To the Editor:

Your editorial of Wednesday, Nov. 3, in which you attack the strategy of street demonstration, manifests the same type of narrow-mindedness that you accuse the demonstrators of. The implication that a majority of the marchers are stoned or unconcerned is a mistruth and appears dangerously similar to the establishment's rationalization of all marches

being the work of freaks and therefore invalid.

While there are certain persons who are obviously only interested in having a good time, your gross generalization about the marchers doesn't do justice to all those genuinely concerned with peace.

Also, your statement that, "Students take to the streets to satisfy their political consciences and then return to their textbooks and surfboards," fails

to take into account the positive effect of peaceful protest. Certainly marches are symbolic gestures, but this is no justification for abolishing them.

Your implication that we must pursue either street action OR devout political labor doesn't recognize that they are both integral parts of the same goal and the one by no means precludes the other.

In what is supposedly a liberal publication, I am surprised and angered by your superficial and incorrect analysis of this situation.

Sincerely,
DAVID E. KAHN

Bring your letters to the NEXUS office in the Storke Publications Building or send them to the NEXUS, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 13402, UCSB.

Contributions must be in no later than noon prior to the day of publication and should be typed, triple spaced on a 60-space line.

Corrections, thanks

To the Editor:

We would like to thank you for your article on "La Casa Nuestra" (Our House), and for the support you have given us. However, there are a few points that should be clarified lest they create wrong impressions:

1) We are incorporated under the name La Casa Nuestra de Santa Barbara and expect to gain a non-profit status for tax relief purposes but currently we are not a non-profit organization.

2) Although we are planning to start with no more than 15 convicts, we hope to expand the number to 20-25 as the program becomes successful.

3) The time period for a man staying at the house is three months, not two to three weeks as stated in the article.

4) Tom McMillan is not a counselor; he is director of research and development at City College.

5) We are not patterned after the Seventh Step foundation. The only similarity between Seventh Step and us is that of "Cons helping Cons."

Thank you again. If you live, your time will come.

GORDON FORBES,
BILL CHILDS,
DAVID NORBY,
Directors of La Casa Nuestra, Inc.

The opinions expressed are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily represent those of the Regents of the University of California, the Associated Students or the UCSB DAILY NEXUS. Articles labelled "editorial" represent a consensus of the UCSB DAILY NEXUS Senior Editorial Board unless signed by an individual writer. Letters and columns from opposing viewpoints are welcome.

DOONESBURY

by Garry Trudeau

